LEGAL NOTICE. STEVENSVILLE RANGER DISTRICT, BITTERROOT

NATIONAL FOREST. The Blodgett Creek and Canyon Creek Road Upgrade Environmental Assessment (EA) is available for public review and comment. Based on public input during the analysis, the EA evaluated a No Action Alternative and two alternatives that meet the purpose and need for the project. These alternatives included: Alternative B that proposes to reconstruct both Blodgett Creek and Canyon Creek roads to a higher standard to improve user safety; and Alternative C that proposes to improve the Blodgett Creek and Canyon Creek roads to a higher standard but it would result in a narrower road surface and less paving than Alternative B. The proposed project is located approximately three miles northwest of Hamilton in the Blodgett and Canyon Creek drainages along the east face of the Bitterroot Mountain range. The legal description for this site is T. 6 N., R. 21 W., Section 21, PMM, Ravalli County, Montana. Public comments on this EA are invited. Your comments on this EA are invited and encouraged. No decision has been made yet. This project is subject to the 2003 notice, comment, and appeal procedures at 36 CFR 215. Comments for this proposed project must be postmarked or received within 30 days after publication of this notice in the Ravalli Republic. Only those who submit timely and substantive comments will be accepted as appellants and each individual or a representative from each organization submitting substantive comments must either sign the comments or be prepared to verify their identity upon request. Comments should be mailed to Don Stadler, Stevensville Ranger District, 88 Main Street, Stevensville, MT 59870, telephone (406) 777-5461, or FAX (406) 777-7423. The Stevensville Ranger District office is open from 8 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday for those who wish to submit hand-delivered comments.

Electronic comments may be sent to comments-northern-bitterroot-

stevensville@FSNOTES. Acceptable electronic formats include e-mail (i.e. ASCII text or html) and MSWord. Comments should include: 1) name, address, phone number, and organization represented, if any; 2) title of project on which the comments are being submitted; and 3) specific facts and supporting information for the District Ranger to consider. The names and addresses of people submitting comments will be included as part of the public record. An electronic version of the EA is available on the web at http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/bitterroot/planning/decisiondocs/decisiondocs.html. If you would like a copy of the EA, or would like more information, please call Don Stadler, Team Leader, at the Stevensville Ranger District (406) 777-5461.